

New Life Christian Fellowship

Mistakes, opposition, illness, loss, loneliness; it is hard to see a way out.

God's Word, the Bible, shows people who succeed despite the odds; but how?

Joseph, Jacob's favourite son, was sold into slavery by jealous brothers and falsely imprisoned for years: "But the Lord was with Joseph, and showed him mercy and loving-kindness and gave him favour in the sight of the warden of the prison." Genesis 39:21. As a result Joseph became second in command in Egypt, saving his family, the Jewish nation, from starvation: Joseph said: "Don't be afraid. Do I act for God? Don't you see, you planned evil against me but God used those same plans for my good, as you see all around you right now—life for many people? ...you have nothing to fear; I'll take care of you and your children." Genesis 50:20.

Joseph did not become bitter or give up, he trusted God.

Remember David? A shepherd boy defeats Goliath, becomes King of Israel, ancestor to Jesus. Although a great King, he was far from perfect. His infamous affair with Bathsheba, led to lies and murder, he lost a baby son too. David mourned, confessed and moved forward. Described by God as "a man after my own heart" (Acts 13:22), David wrote some of the most moving poetry to date, The Psalms.

David had faith big enough to defeat a giant, admitted when he was wrong and said sorry. He wholeheartedly depended on God.

These ordinary people faced temptations and trials like us. God was with them. Whatever your circumstances, even when you mess up; God can be with you too.

Sometimes things are hard to understand, because God's ways are not like ours. In struggles God's love gives the strength to keep going. Joseph and David had faith, hope and trust in God, this is how they succeeded.

Remember shepherd boy, David's words: "God, my shepherd! I don't need a thing..... Even when the way goes through Death Valley, I'm not afraid when you walk at my side. Your trusty shepherd's crook makes me feel secure.....Your beauty

and love chase after me every day of my life. I'm back home in the house of God for the rest of my life." Psalm 23.

If you want someone to talk to or would like us to pray for you call: 01834 812839 / 01834 831533. New Life Christian Fellowship meet: Kilgetty Community Centre, 10.45am Sundays, all are welcome.